

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed, and reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

5 Claims 1-4 were originally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lin (US-5,812,285).

Responsive to this, claims 1 and 2 are amended so as to make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior art reference cited by the Examiner. In addition, new claims 5-7 are added so as to make the claimed invention
10 more distinguishably patentable over the prior art reference cited by the Examiner.

Applicant also submits the following comments.

The claimed invention discloses “a scanner comprising a housing having a first surface defining at least two mounting holes, each of the two mounting holes being formed with two opposite catch plates; a paper cover having an inner face with
15 at least two locking hooks protruding outward therefrom, each locking hook including a shank having a first side and a second side each having a wing block protruded outward therefrom, each locking hook being mounted in a respective mounting hole of the housing, each wing block facing the respective catch plate; and
20 at least two elastic ribs each mounted beside a respective mounting hole of the housing and each having a top end formed with a catch block, the catch block of each of the elastic ribs having one side extended into the respective mounting hole and rested on the respective locking hook to provide an elastic stop effect to the

respective locking hook to prevent the respective locking hook from being detached from the respective mounting hole when the locking hook of the paper cover is both perpendicular to and parallel with the respective mounting hole of the housing” as disclosed in the amended claim 1.

5 With reference to the Lin reference, it disclosed a housing 2, and a paper cover 1. The housing 2 has two mounting holes 6 and two elastic ribs 7. The paper cover 1 has two locking hooks 4 each having a wing block 5. Each of the mounting holes 6 has a size slightly greater than the width of the wing block 5 and slightly smaller than the length of the wing block 5.

10 In comparison, in the Lin reference, when each of the two locking hooks 4 of the paper cover 1 is parallel with the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 (the paper cover 1 is disposed at a perpendicular position) as shown in Fig. 4a, the wing block 5 of each of the two locking hooks 4 of the paper cover 1 is inserted into the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 and can be detached from the
15 respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 without being stopped by the respective elastic rib 7, and when each of the two locking hooks 4 of the paper cover 1 is perpendicular to the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 (the paper cover 1 is disposed at a horizontal position) as shown in Fig. 5, the wing block 5 of each of the two locking hooks 4 of the paper cover 1 is stopped by the respective elastic rib 7 of
20 the housing 2, thereby preventing the wing block 5 of each of the two locking hooks 4 of the paper cover 1 from being detached from the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2. In such a manner, each of the elastic ribs 7 stops the respective locking

hook 4 of the paper cover 1 only when the paper cover 1 is disposed at a horizontal position and cannot stop the respective locking hook 4 of the paper cover 1 when the paper cover 1 is disposed at a perpendicular position.

On the contrary, in the claimed invention, the catch block 33 of each of the
5 elastic ribs 31 provides an elastic stop effect to the respective locking hook 44 to prevent the respective locking hook 44 from being detached from the respective mounting hole 14 when the locking hook 44 of the paper cover 41 is both perpendicular to and parallel with the respective mounting hole 14 of the housing 11.

Thus, the Lin reference does not teach “the catch block of each of the
10 elastic ribs having one side extended into the respective mounting hole and rested on the respective locking hook to provide an elastic stop effect to the respective locking hook to prevent the respective locking hook from being detached from the respective mounting hole when the locking hook of the paper cover is both perpendicular to and parallel with the respective mounting hole of the housing” as disclosed in the
15 amended claim 1 of the claimed invention.

In addition, in the Lin reference, the housing 2 is not formed with an open-shaped opening at the second surface thereof and connected to the respective mounting hole 6. Thus, the Lin reference does not teach “the housing has a second surface located perpendicular to the first surface and formed with at least two
20 open-shaped openings each connected to a respective one of the two mounting holes” as disclosed in the amended claim 2 of the claimed invention.

Further, in the Lin reference, the housing 2 is not formed with an open-shaped opening at the second surface thereof and connected to the respective mounting hole 6 so that each of the mounting holes 6 of the housing 2 is not formed with a longitudinal portion connected to an open-shaped opening. Thus, the Lin reference does not teach “each of the mounting holes of the housing has a longitudinal portion connected to the open-shaped opening and a transverse portion traversing the longitudinal portion” as disclosed in the new added claim 5 of the claimed invention.

Further, in the Lin reference, each of the elastic ribs 7 is not pushed by the respective locking hook 4 to retract from the respective mounting hole 6 when the respective locking hook 4 is inserted into the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2, so that the respective locking hook 4 is directly inserted into the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 without any resistance. Similarly, the respective locking hook 4 is directly detached from the respective mounting hole 6 of the housing 2 without any resistance.

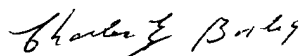
Thus, the Lin reference does not teach “the one side of the catch block of each of the elastic ribs is pushed by the respective locking hook to retract from the respective mounting hole when the respective locking hook is inserted into the respective mounting hole of the housing and is extended into the respective mounting hole by an elastic action after the respective locking hook is inserted into the respective mounting hole of the housing to stop movement of the respective locking hook” as disclosed in the new added claim 7 of the claimed invention.

Accordingly, from the above mentioned descriptions, it is apparent that the claimed invention has disclosed a scanner structure and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over that of the Lin reference. It is believed that the Lin reference does not provide the elements and objectives as are disclosed in the
5 claimed invention.

Therefore, for all of the above-mentioned reasons, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) should be withdrawn, and the claims 1-7 should be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that
10 the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, he is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



By: Charles E. Baxley
Attorney for Applicant
90 John Street – Third Floor
New York, N.Y. 10038-3243